

The Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) is one of the UK's 7 research councils who provide funding to UK science research. The major area of NERC funding is in the environmental, oceanographic and earth sciences subjects.

It undertakes research through its 4 research centres – British Antarctic Survey; British Geological Survey; Centre for Ecology & Hydrology; Proudman Oceanographic Laboratories – and by grants to Higher Education Institutes and several collaborative centres

The NERC Open Research Archive (NORA) went live in August 2007 as the repository for the peer-reviewed research output of NERC-funded research within its 4 centres. It currently holds the peer-reviewed output of the centres from 2006 to date

<http://nora.nerc.ac.uk>

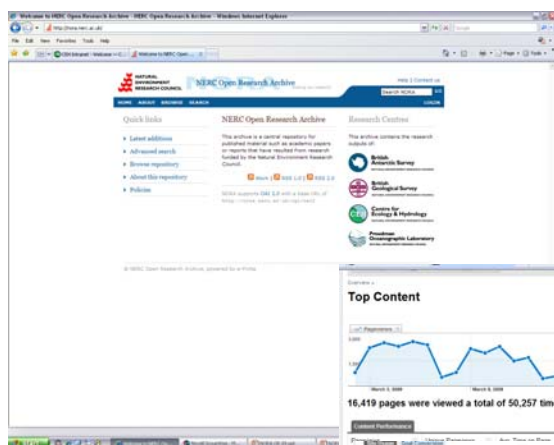
Does NORA work?

In 2008, CEH saw an increase in requests for its material of over 700%. All the more remarkable given that over 60% of CEH online content is now available as full text

NORA receives over 16000 hits per month – 50% from outside the UK

Deposit to request in as little as 4 days

Often found in the first pages of sites returned by major search engines



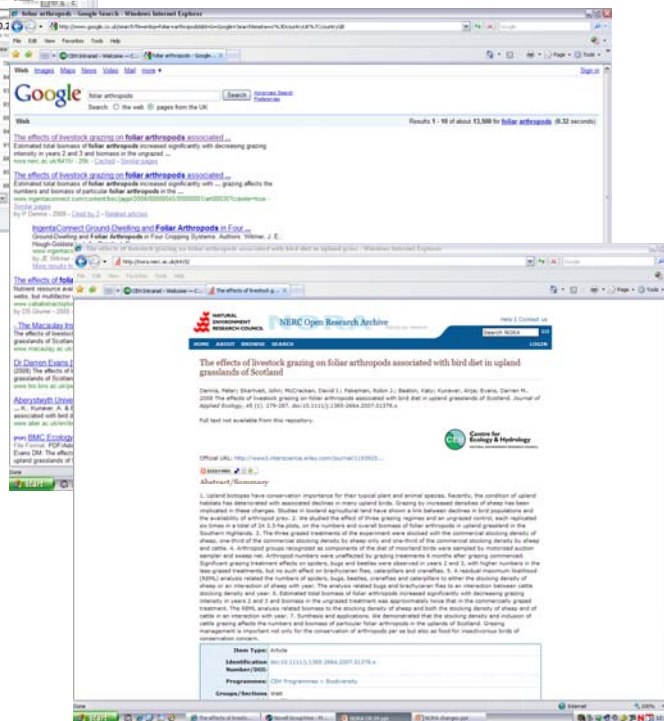
Developments

The next phase of NORA will include the addition of a publication tracking workflow to link in to NERC's other Enterprise Information Management Systems.

There will be further development of NORA's capability to output management information and statistics

It is planned that NORA will become the sole source of information concerning research outputs within NERC's 4 research institutes

The Centre for Ecology & Hydrology have already taken the first step and includes all research output from 2006 to date



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